



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/711,608	11/13/2000	Charles F. Berry	END920000120US1	7922

7590

09/16/2002

John R. Pivnichny
IBM, N50/040-4
1701 North Street
Endicott, NY 13760

EXAMINER

JAKETIC, BRYAN J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3627

DATE MAILED: 09/16/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/711,608

Applicant(s)

BERRY ET AL.

Examiner

Bryan Jaketic

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garrett et al. Garrett et al disclose a system and method of data entry comprising the steps of entering data by a first entity into a first database (200); entering a subset of the data by a second entity into a database (400; see col. 3, lines 15-25); matching said subset of data and highlighting any unmatched entries (col. 3, lines 26-59); setting a status indicator to audit failed and specifying a reason (col. 3, lines 55-59). The data entered by the first and second entities is entered into a plurality of fields (col. 3, lines

Art Unit: 3627

35-41), including a document number (220). When the first entity enters the data, a status indicator is set to entered, and displays an increase in the number of entered records (see Fig. 5). The second entity provides identification (see field 17 of Figure 4).

Garrett et al do not disclose the use of an invoice. However, it is common in the art to record data on invoices, and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ an invoice to hold data that is to be entered into the database of Garrett et al, to ensure that the data is entered quickly and efficiently.

Garrett et al do not teach that persons enter the data. However, manual data entry is common in the art, and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a person to enter the data in the system of Garrett et al, because it is less expensive than implementing an automated data entry system.

Garrett et al do not teach that the first and second entities enter data into a single database. However, it is common in the art to employ a single database for holding data, and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a single database with the invention of Garrett et al, because it is less expensive to maintain a single database.

Garrett et al do not teach the step of posting entered data into a second database if the status indicator is audit passed. However, Garrett et al do teach a step of posting entered data into a second database if the status indicator is audit failed (col. 3, lines 51-59). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

Art Unit: 3627

the invention was made to employ an additional database for data that is audit passed for organizational purposes, so that such data can be easily retrieved.

Garrett et al do not disclose a specify reason push button. However, push buttons are common in the art, and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a push button with the invention of Garrett et al to allow a user to make notations as to the reason the audit failed.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Northington et al disclose a system that checks and matches data entered. Radican discloses a system for auditing and inventory shipment. Lesley discloses a system that requires data re-entry if the entered data does not match previously recorded data. Miksovsky et al disclose a system of matching data entries.

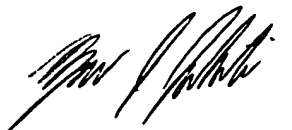
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bryan Jaketic whose telephone number is (703) 308-0134. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski can be reached on (703) 308-5183. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7687 for regular communications and (703) 305-7687 for After Final communications.

Art Unit: 3627

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

bj
September 10, 2002



09/10/02